

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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> IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO FILE:

EP-5

July 17, 2002

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: James A. Noyes

Director of Public Works

STATUS REPORT ON PILOT E-WASTE COLLECTION PROGRAM

This is a follow-up to my memorandum of February 20, 2002, regarding the proper collection and management of electronic waste and, specifically, cathode ray tubes found in televisions and computer monitors. As a result of new regulations adopted by the State Department of Toxic Substances Control, these materials can no longer be managed at municipal solid waste landfills. This means that residents now have few options for the safe, legal, and economical disposal of these items.

The Department, in concert with the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County and other stakeholders, has completed an evaluation of potential alternatives for the proper management of e-waste from residents. This included a pilot program conducted by the Districts to demonstrate and evaluate the need and interest in e-waste collection. Based on the results of our evaluation and the Districts' pilot program, we are recommending that the collection of e-waste be incorporated into our successful Countywide household hazardous waste Roundup program as the most effective way to serve residents of the County.

The cost of incorporating e-waste collection into the Roundups is estimated at \$500,000 per year. We will use our existing resources to conduct the combined Roundups beginning in September 2002, although this may result in a decrease in the total number of events offered annually. To supplement existing resources, we will also pursue other sources of funding including funds that may become available as a result of Senate Bill 1619 which is now pending. We will be notifying all cities by means of a joint letter from the Department and the Districts about the new collection program.

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If you have any questions regarding this recommendation, please contact me or your staff may contact Don Wolfe, Assistant Director, at (626) 458-4014, or Mike Mohajer, Assistant Deputy Director, at (626) 458-3500.

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cc: Chief Administrative Office

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